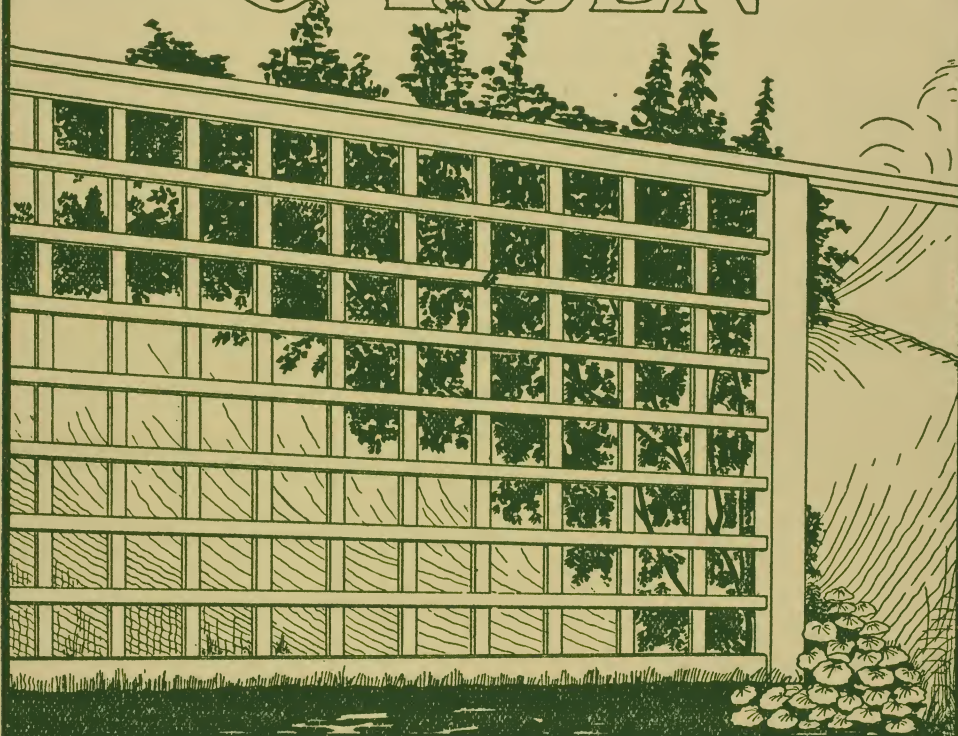


# CALIFORNIA GARDEN



Per Year  
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AUGUST, 1913

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City Beautiful—Our City and Other Cities  
Visit to Panama-California Exposition Nurseries  
The Water Question Again  
The August Gardens

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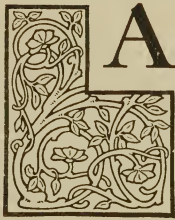
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# The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association  
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 5

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST, 1913

No. 2

## What of The Future?

By L. A. Blochman

**T**HE San Diego Floral Association has been a success up to the present, thanks to the ardent interest and unselfish efforts of its founder and former president. Will it continue to be a factor for good in the future, as it has been in the past? That question will have to be answered by its members. Are we making the progress we should? Have we made the growth we should in proportion to the growth of the City? Have we reached and interested the new comers? Have we done as much as we could toward interesting our fellow citizens in making San Diego a City Beautiful, in prodding the lethargic into action and making our visitors in 1915, who come to see the "Land of Sunshine and Flowers" feel that they have not been disappointed?

**T**HERE is much for us to do. Not for one or two of us,—but US. All of us—and all, that all of us can get to join with us, in our efforts for the furtherance of our good work. Some few selfish ones may remark that it is a labor of love and there is little save glory in the work. Such is not the case. Individually we shall get little praise, little reward, but the asset to the city at large, the asset to the individual who learns how to cultivate flowers, will be so great that we shall all be individually benefited by the added values to property through our efforts.

**T**HEN let us work together for the advancement of San Diego along horticultural lines. One for all, all for one. Let us get everyone to join with us in our work. Let us help and instruct those less experienced than ourselves in improving their gardens. Show them what to plant, how to plant, where to plant. Let us see that our Superintendent of Streets plants the trees that the large majority of our citizens said that he should. Let us aid and support our Park Authorities who are carrying along their work so splendidly. Let us through our exhibitions, interest, encourage and instruct our citizens with our flowers and plants. Let us, one and all, do our share toward the California Garden and help make it better and more useful. And let us one and all spread the propaganda of Better Flowers, Better Gardens, and a BETTER, MORE BEAUTIFUL CITY.



THE SECOND OF A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON

# The City Beautiful

By V. O. WALLINGFORD

## II.

In the first paper I spoke of the problem of selecting a home-site, in the development of the City Beautiful, having consideration of the relation of the contemplated house and grounds to its neighborhood and its neighbors; and, further, of the sympathy that must be established between the opportunity and the solution of the problem.

This just reminds me that there is said to be a law in the German Empire that forbids any one building any sort of a structure that will be an offense to his neighbors, whether by reason of style, color, material or purpose. What a long step toward the City Beautiful if such a thing were known here.

There are certain styles of architecture, certain materials of construction and certain types of arrangement of plan, that seem more specially adapted to our local conditions and climate than others, and it is my purpose to discuss these in a later paper.

This one promised to have to do with what I was pleased to call "Harmonious House and Garden Design," and while I continue the chat along the general line of comment on how I think we may develop the City Beautiful, I hope to be able to keep most nearly to that particular idea.

This City Beautiful of ours need not, and should not, be a city of one style of building, nor of garden. We have read of the wonderful gardens of Seville and have heard of the beautiful formal Italian gardens, but we do not ask nor wish to have all of them and no other.

The one thing I demand is harmony. Harmony between the house and its garden. Harmony between the adjoining gardens in the block, or perhaps even a spirit of complete harmony for the entire

section between the two canyons. But this harmony does not necessarily mean similarity. The contrast between a lot improved chiefly by an expanse of green lawn and another with banks of shrubbery and wreaths of color may have the effect of each enhancing the other and the whole a most harmonious picture.

I should, on the other hand, consider it an offense if there were a stone or cement wall dividing two similar properties on the one side of which were vegetables and old-fashioned flowers, and on the other many rare and strange cacti. Anything but cactus or cacti, anyway, if I have my choice.

I have had many afternoons of pleasure walking about the residence sections of the city and discovering the house and garden combinations and the taste that have been used in combining them. Most of them are off the lines of the cars and you should walk or drive to see them. Preferably walk, for then you will not get too much to assimilate at one time, and can stop and look, or stroll slowly by as you take it in.

There are two or three beautiful places near Albatross and Kalmia streets, where the brilliance of flower and foliage are reflected by, and lend reflective color to, expanses of white wall. Here on some of these walls I have watched the eaves-shadows move like that of a sun-dial, while marveling at the brilliance of the sunshine and the brightness of the colors of the grass and the scarlet of the geranium or cannas.

At some other times I have cooled my whole being by simply looking at the grass and the vines, while my imagination penetrated the shady arches of some one of the houses and grounds in the neighborhood of Third and Nutmeg.

Maybe you have walked out through the

almost private extension of Seventh street north of the Park and seen those homes there. Some of those places are perfectly "awfully good" in their effect of peace, comfort and harmony. Each one is in sympathy with its neighbors, and none of them offends the other or you.

There is an eternal charm about the walled or enclosed garden. I wish only that some of them were not quite so exclusive in their withholding of that charm from the passerby. A slatted gate instead of a solid one, or an open side to the enclosure that we who are less fortunate in possession, except of the spirit thereof, might have the pleasure of seeing.

San Diego has been fortunate in some of the architects who have worked here. There have been real artists who have been able to work in sympathy with the sunshine, and the atmosphere that go to make up the thing we call climate.

Imagine a house with the exterior worked up in the style of the villas of Italy, tiled roof, a background of dark cypresses and a foreground given over to a little shrubbery, but mostly open lawn, and a drive that winds just enough to arrive at the porch by easy slope.

And another one I have in mind has plain, almost smooth walls, deeply sunk window and door openings, a roof substantially framed but not too heavy to carry the tiling. The wall that encloses the garden is perfectly plain without any artificial ornamentation, but some vines

with green and brown and red leaves have crept up the side and running along the top drip over the edges with sprays of color. I'm not trying to write poetry; it's just the way it looks to me. And there is one side of the garden open so that you can go by and see the grass and the flowers. And you are better for it, too.

Most of this paper has been about bigger things than the five-room bungalows that means home to many, but I did not mean to be exclusive. Good architecture, which I extend to take in good gardens as well, consists not in much or variety of ornament; but rather in honesty of purpose, consistency of expression and harmony with the conditions creating the problem.

And I know of a little six-room house out on Sixth street, with a shingled roof, plain weather-boarding on the walls, an unroofed porch, and the whole painted white and set in the midst of a green lawn with two or three Italian cypress trees growing up beside it, that is as sweet as a girl in a party frock.

All of the owners of the places that I have referred to have done no more than their own good taste demanded, and for their own pleasure, but the whole city is benefited, and all of us share in the result. There is no burden upon the community to make the City Beautiful a reality, other than the reasonable admission of our individual belief in the Golden Rule.



## Garden Culture in Summer

Our necessity for continual irrigation and subsequent cultivation has militated against the development of what would at first glance appear to be one of the most practical methods of growing our summer flowers, and that is in masses that completely shade the ground. This article is written in order to discuss the possibility of so doing.

The perennial border, so charmingly featured in the garden literature of other climes, is rendered to a large extent impossible with us because of the reiterated water and stir. Our conditions are not favorable to a mixed crop developing in rotation that is our condition of present-day practice, but cannot we modify them to allow us this indulgence? As absolute

requisites we must have the facility to apply water without cultivation, being necessary to avoid baking of the soil, and a means of keeping the ground from becoming too hot. In our practice of irrigating and cultivating during summer, we continually expose the roots of shallow rooted growths to the wilting action of the sun so that after each operation the plants suffer for a period determined by the weather, etc., and in consequence no marked success is obtained with this class at this season. It is reasonably clear that in the ground conditions we should seek the trouble, as here we have not so great a heat as in the East and in San Diego at least there is a good average percentage of humidity in the air. A possible clue to the remedy is indicated in the current method of starting lawns by mulching with sawdust or other material, and the fact that when started the lawn shades the ground for itself. The same argument applies to our alfalfa crops, which relieve the general brownness of our landscape with their luscious green. The generally accepted method of alfalfa cultivation is to lay off the fields in shallow pans, so to speak, which are flooded in turn. Why not adopt some such method in our gardens? Sink the beds six inches or so (if

they are large, subdivide them with earth partitions) and cover them with sawdust or strawy manure. Even the fine sea grass, chopped hay, the fallings from cypress trees, leaves, a thousand things might work, and flood at times which experience and observation will indicate, and leave alone. The soil would have to be of a sandy nature or have a liberal admixture of coarse sand. The adobes probably could not be so treated. Thus we might have our perennial borders, our beds of summer annuals, and perhaps many garden friends of other climes that we have believed taboo in Southern California. Of course beds would have to be leveled, but that does not necessitate the levelling of the garden. A long bed on a slope might be a series of terraces and very attractive. In the dead level of the lot perfectly prepared by the real estater, the sunken bed would come as a pleasing irregularity. Where a canyon bed could be thus treated, like a succession of shallow ponds with a trickling stream, wonderful things might be done with iris and kindred growths. The idea is commended to the Park Board, when they shall have accomplished the rose garden advocated in these pages.

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## Roses from Seed

Some time last spring Bob Paine, of Point Loma, planted some seeds—corn, or beans or hollyhocks, or something like that. I have forgotten just what it was, but I distinctly remember that he made a noise like a glee club with a brass-band accompaniment when those seeds sprouted and came up.

Whereupon and whereat some of us other amateur planters and tillers of the soil shrugged our envious shoulders, said "huh," and then got good and ready to beat him to a frazzle in the joyso game of producing pretty things from seeds.

Now I shall not allow any kind of taunting from anybody, to make me vain-glorious, or chesty, or to otherwise act like one who has had Wonderland thrust upon him. I do not intend to even become personal in these few remarks—that is, not personal in the first person. So I will make it third person, and say I know a person, a third person, who has scooped Paine for three consecutive editions.

Here is what that person did: On or about February 27, of this year, 1913, he meandered into his garden and gathered a miscellaneous collection of hips from last



year's rose blooms. He found hips from Gen. McArthur, Paul Neyron, Brabrant, Gruss and Teplitz, Baron St. Trevis, and others, including an unknown climber of the brier class, a climber which was supposed to come yellow but has come a delicate pink. Seeds from these hips were planted in a comfortably useful but not so ornamental half of an old lemon box, on February 27, 1913—mark the date. They came up, sprouted in fine shape, and they flourished even as the bay tree—or is it the chestnut sorrel tree—is supposed to flourish. The sole proprietor of those rose plants began to feel plumb sure he had that man Paine beat a plenty, but he didn't say a word, though it required grim and heroic determination on his part to keep from presenting so important a matter to the city council, board of supervisors and the grand jury. The final census, when all returns seemed to be in, showed just nineteen thrifty rose seedlings. So far, so good.

June 27, 1913, was an important day in the history of this country. The person who raised those rose seedlings knows it. On that day, just four calendar months from the date those seeds were planted, the first bud broke its calyx and showed its color. It was out in full bloom July 1, and four others—FIVE in all (there can be no doubt about the number, as they were counted often enough and carefully enough)—were following into bloom. By July 5 all were in full bloom, and the sole proprietor of that bouquet of beauty is entirely satisfied that each and every one of those five blooms was fit to enter for

first prize in the sweepstake class in any rose show in the country. Each bloom was heavily double and delightfully fragrant, which, you may be informed, are the first characteristics desired in a new rose. The first to bloom was a deep carmine, and very evidently a child of that frequent prize-winner, Gen. McArthur. Two others were a shade lighter, and the fifth was a beautiful cerise pink and so double that the infant plant that supported it was unable to force it open quite perfectly.

There were five splendid successes out of a possible nineteen. But the scoop is not all told yet. On July 12, three more of those seedling roses came into bloom, two of them solid coral pink, and the third having petals of pink shading to white in the center. These three are semi-double, and are apparently seedlings from the unknown pink climber or from a Ruby Queen rose growing near by, or possibly a cross of these two, both the Queen and the climber being of the brier class. While the proprietor of this loveliness is proud enough of his first five splendid double seedlings, he is still prouder of these later semi-doubles because of the extraordinary delicacy of their tints and colorings and the indescribable sweetness of their fragrance.

He has now had eight blooms from nineteen plants grown from seeds in four months and fifteen days. There are still eleven plants to hear from, and, Mr. Paine, if you dare to offer one word in reply you will certainly hear from those plants, and from  
THE THIRD PERSON.

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## Visit to Exposition Nurseries

A number of members of San Diego Floral Association made a pilgrimage to the Panama-California Exposition nurseries in Balboa Park, Saturday afternoon, August 2, and were shown through the

various departments by Superintendent Paul Thiene, assisted by Mr. Ralph Sumner.

To say that the visit was interesting, is putting it very mildly, but when it comes

to giving a description of what is there to be seen, the task is great, and the space required would fill a book.

The first thought that impresses one is the unlimited variety of plant life, and the second is the clean, healthy condition generally of the plants themselves. We who have trouble in taking care of a wee bit of garden, can't help wondering how it is possible to look after a million plants, more or less, and keep them happy and contented.

Mr. Thiene seems to have the task well in hand, and thoroughly systematized. Every plant is accounted for on his books,

the tiniest cuttings or seedlings, to mighty trees sixty feet high, and the variety seems absolutely unlimited. There are all of our old plant friends, faithful and true, and an endless number of others which we never saw before. Some might be considered freaks of nature, from peculiarities of form or habits, but nevertheless they are making themselves right at home, and appear satisfied with their new surroundings.

An interesting feature of the whole proposition, is the fact that they are being trained so as to be at their best at a fixed time, and that their present quarters are only temporary. With that fact in view, a



## PANAMA - CALIFORNIA

and he can tell you just what it costs to propagate, fertilize, water, and carry the plant through to maturity, when it is planted in its permanent location on the exposition grounds, or in one of the buildings.

Some of the tropical plants require artificial heat, even in our mild climate, and he has them under glass in his hot-houses. Others need the damp, cool, shaded protection of the lath houses, and many others are able to withstand the weather as it comes by day or night, and are growing out in the open.

In size they range all the way from

great many of the trees, shrubs and plants, even to the vines, are in huge boxes, so that when the time comes they can be transplanted with the rich earth around their roots, and will go right on growing without a set-back. The vines are being trained up ten-foot poles so that they will have a fine start when placed alongside columns or walls up which they are to climb.

Many avenue trees are already being placed, the hillsides are being thickly planted with all manner of growth, and their places in the nursery taken by others. It is necessary to keep a reserve supply, as some are bound to die, no matter how well cared for.

The stock of palms is large and varied, ranging from the dwarfs to the tall and wide-spreading ones. Besides the little and medium-sized ones being grown in the nurseries, many large ones have been gathered in from all parts of the city. On account of the great building activity during the past two years, many trees had to be removed to make room for buildings. Whenever the park or exposition people learned of trees to be removed, they sent their expert tree-mover, Frank Sessions, to gather them in. It is no small task to take up a huge tree with many tons of earth attached to its roots, box it up and carry it per-

raise the roof of the biggest lath-house to accommodate it.

Trips have been made up the coast to Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and even to San Francisco, and rare and beautiful plants gathered in for the Panama-California Exposition. Some of these have been plucked from under the noses of the San Francisco Exposition people, who took a long time preparing to get ready to start.

The association members were also shown the site of the big exposition auditorium lath-house, near the Southern Counties building and the ten-acre demonstration farm. Work has just started on the lath-



haps several miles and replant it. None have been refused however on account of their size.

Standing at the Laurel Street entrance to the park are three tall palms recently transplanted. Two of them have sent out new leaves, showing that the critical period has passed, and Mr. Sessions is confident that the third and tallest of them all, will soon do likewise.

Mr. Thiene's particular pet is an *Acacia*, recently brought to the nursery from Fifth and Robinson. It stands over sixty feet high, and it was necessary to

house excavations. Though time is an important consideration in plant growth, with the fine start given the plants in the nurseries, there is no reason why the huge lath-house should not be one of the greatest attractions of the exposition, when its doors are open on January 1, 1915.

That little farm promises to be the best ever. Already over 700 citrus fruit trees are growing and many of them would be bearing fruit if allowed so to do. The farm has a bungalow, a la California, a barn and garage, chicken-runs and all the other necessary adjuncts to a well-regulated ranch. Around the farm is a pergola fence, which



will be vine and flower-covered its entire length. This little farm will demonstrate the possibilities of changing a piece of virgin soil into an improved, attractive and productive ranch home within the short space of three years.

A number of the big buildings of the exposition are nearing completion, the great bridge to span the canyon and form

the main entrance is progressing nicely, and taking it as a whole, the undertaking seems to be well controlled.

Of course the Association members are particularly interested in the floral side of the exposition, and after Saturday's visit, they are satisfied that the work is in good hands.

## Athens Rome, Washington (*and San Diego*) as Examples of Cities Beautiful

Prof. Mitchell Carroll, secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, gave an illustrated lecture in the Grant Hotel ball room, Thursday evening, July 31, on "Athens, Rome and Washington as Types of the City Beautiful."

The speaker defined Archaeology as the "History of human progress, as told by the monuments left by men of former times." He pointed out the wonderful success of the City of Athens of ancient times, and attributed their success to the fact that they aimed to make the city so beautiful that it would call back to its borders those who went elsewhere to make their fortunes, and drew to it great numbers from less attractive places. They made their commercial buildings as beautiful as their public buildings, improved their water fronts, laid out great park systems and civic centers.

Pericles took advantage of the beautiful setting of Athens among the hills and adapted his plan of development to the natural topography, with curved streets following the contour of the hills. One-fifth of the territory of ancient Athens was devoted to Public purposes. The buildings for commercial purposes along their water fronts were made attractive with colonnades, and were used for theatres, places of amusement, stores, etc., but all obeying the highest laws of art. "What Athens did, San Diego can do," said the speaker, "as it is very similarly

situated, having the naturally beautiful setting among the hills, sloping down to the bay and ocean."

The Romans, noted as practical commercial people, appreciated the value of beauty in city planning, and Julius Caesar planned wisely in developing the beauties of Rome. The buildings were made not only useful but beautiful. One-eighth of Rome was devoted to parks and gardens. Their forums were wonderfully planned and faithfully executed.

In Washington, our own capital city, a real effort has been made to preserve and improve its beauties. The plan as originally laid out, was well conceived, and with the Capitol Building as the central figure, the Washington Monument, which is to be further beautified in its surroundings, the Grant monument, and the Lincoln memorial building, now authorized, the bridge across the Potomac, the beautiful park systems, the public squares and circles from which radiate beautiful avenues, all show the progress toward making Washington one of the most beautiful cities of the World.

Prof. Carroll paid a high tribute to the natural beauty and great possibilities of San Diego, and congratulated the Exposition management on having selected the archaeological and horticultural features as their leading attractions, which will make the Panama-California Exposition something unique and apart from the expositions of other cities and countries.

# Some Water Suggestions

By A. D. ROBINSON

San Diego is asked to vote this month nearly a million dollars for immediate expenditure on its recently purchased water system, and no one, who has even superficially considered the matter, can doubt the necessity, so that the question presented is really how shall we spend. Water is more than gold, more than cement, more than factories, more than railroads, more than the Panama Canal, to this City of San Diego and as it is its greatest need or asset, it seems absolutely essential that it shall be audited in a careful manner. The proposed bond issue is obviously but a drop in the bucket of the future and therefore it can only economically be expended as a part of a general plan of development evolved by experts after a complete investigation. Without imputing inefficiency to anyone connected with our water system, it is emphatically insisted that at once the best advice obtainable should be brought to bear on this subject before this million dollars is spent. It has been noted that committees from august bodies have conferred on this subject and approved the expenditure along the lines suggested, and it may be all right, but are the members of this consultation willing to go on record as experts on water systems? Are they willing to shoulder the blame if this expenditure prove to have been ill advised in the future. If not for their own protection, they should demand the most expert advice obtainable. There is not a private concern in San Diego or elsewhere that would spend a million dollars in its business except on expert advice. It should be re-

membered that the former owners of the water system employed a noted hydraulic engineer, now in a most important office up north, and if they were making these developments this engineer would have been required to satisfy them that he had all the data obtainable and the best possible scheme that could be evolved. Did this engineer foresee the coming necessity for the expenditure of a sum so large that even his employers thought it best to pass? Let us have a water commission, and let it employ an expert, and among other things have experimental wells bored all around. Why should not some of the Park Improvement Bond money go into experimental holes in the park. A right good well or wells would make a mighty convincing exhibit at the exposition. The park should develop its own water system. Have experimental wells been bored therein? Rumor has it that a couple of years ago a water expert stated that he would undertake to develop a water system in the park, with no pay unless he did. Let that be as it may, the advantages of such a course, if it be feasible, are too obvious to need expanding. Now, with practically two millions to be put into the park on permanent improvement, is the time to do something, for it is problematical, if more than enough to keep up these improvements will be appropriated for a long time, and the call for the water in the park as elsewhere will be ever on the increase. A makeshift policy on this water question is a crime, besides being very foolish. Let us know where we are and what we are doing and are going to do.



# What to Do in August Gardens

## August Garden Guide

George P. Hall

Sow tomato seed or set cuttings of tomatoes in August. Try some of the Atlantic prize for the winter crop, as it stands more cold than any other variety and has taken the place of the Richmond, formerly the favorite winter tomato. Sow the seed in shady places, or make shade for them by racks or any means you can simply devise to keep the soil from baking dry. Do not water the little plants too much or they will get fungus—dampness breeds it. Gradually bring them into the sun and transplant in September. Do not everlastingly sprinkle your plants. The only safe way is by irrigation. You scatter the pollen and destroy it by sprinkling and pollenization must take place while we have summer heat. They will not pollenize in weather below 70 degrees. Do not irrigate much after fruit begins to set. The tomatoes are sweeter and firmer if you water judiciously. If you like pink tomatoes the new Pink Earlian is really a pink of perfection.

August is potato planting month also and Burbanks "Rural Blush" and "Harvest King" are new sorts, well recommended, but if you cannot get them the straight Burbank without the "blush" will do good service. If you get the manure well disposed in the soil this July and plant during August you will get your crop in November, before Jack has a chance to nip them. Be careful in selecting the soil to get the loamiest piece you have and preferably grey or black in preference to red. Do not plant them where you have just been digging potatoes. They want a fresh chance to hunt for the elements in the soil the last crop took out. Be sure the soil is not scabby and as a precaution against scab, soak the tubers you are going to plant one and one-half hours in 2 ounces of corrosive sublimate—bichloride of mercury—in 16 gallons of water; dry, then cut in pieces to plant. The seedmen also have a preparation of formalin for the same purpose. Sow celery, cauliflower and onions for main crop and Yorkshire hero peas will be the best for August planting. Give them partial

shade if you can. Sow pansies, pinks, stocks, petunias, carnations and salvias. Cover seed bed with light burlap and water through it so as not to disturb the tiny seeds of pansies or petunias.

## Among Plants and Flowers

Mary A. Matthews

Already the fall and winter catalogues are coming to us and now is the time to decide what we will have this next season.

If your garden enthusiasm has flagged this dry, warm weather, read the catalogues and some of the various books written of late on gardening and you will go to work with renewed energy and want to grow everything mentioned in them.

Bulbs for early blooming should go in the ground this month—paper-white narcissus, campernell jonquils, early roman hyacinths, snowflakes and freesias, also more of the early blooming bulbous iris, such as reticulata, the peacock iris, Susiana, tuberosa, and many others of this class. Divide and replant any of your Iris Germanica, that may need it, as they will commence new growth soon. Try some of the new freesias that come in the pinks, purples and lavender. The "blue freesia," sent out by florists, is a Babiana "Baboon root," as baboons are said to be very fond of them. The so called red freesia is anomathica cruenta. Both of these belong to the freesias, but lack the fragrance of the true ones. When buying all these things and planting seedlings, do it in quantities. The fault of most of our gardens is that they have too many bare spaces. Go bug hunting every morning in the garden and don't forget that the pests of one kind or another are with you all through this month. Just now is the rose bug season and they ruin everything they attack. Hand picking for these and the aster beetle is the only sure protection. Tobacco water will rid plants of thrips and green fly.

Cultivate all through August incidentally to keep down weeds, principally to maintain a mulch of loose surface soil



which will hold the moisture under ground where the roots will get the benefit. Bone meal is a good fertilizer at this season. A handful sprinkled round the plants, well worked in and then watered will help wonderfully.

Anemone japonica will be coming into bloom the last of the month. They will want an application of nitrate of soda about every ten days at the rate of a teaspoonful to one gallon of water. This will very materially lengthen the stems and size of flowers. Where it has not been done before, go over the violet beds and divide old clumps and transplant into well prepared soil. See that they get enough water till established. This is the season to sow pansy seeds in flats, a well-enriched soil with a proportion of leaf mould is the best. Sow the seeds in drills, covering them lightly and firm the soil well. The seeds should germinate in from ten to twelve days and should not dry out during this time. Covering the flats with newspaper will prevent this and hasten germination. As soon as the plants are large enough to handle they should be transplanted to stand about nine inches apart in the rows. Cultivation should be given from the very start, as pansies will not thrive unless they are free from weeds and have the best of care. For best results get the good seeds. The finest pansies are shy seeders.

If you want to have hollyhocks, sow seeds now. They are showy penennials, stately in growth and make a charming background to the hardy border, or they can be grown in large groups. Hollyhock pest is the bane of all who try to grow them, the only preventive for this is Bordeaux mixture. Spraying should be commenced as soon as the leaves begin to show and should continue every few weeks till the flowering season.

Sow seeds of all the winter blooming annuals—scarlet flax, Drummond phlox, calliopsis, larkspurs, and centaureas. For decorative use sow gypsophyla, "baby's breath," artemisea, and steria serrata, also the somewhat newer saponaria valcaria, "Bouncing Bet," with glistening satiny pink flowers, like an enlarged baby's breath.

Any of these planted during this month and next, if well cared for till the rains come, ought to give a wealth of bloom in early spring and summer. Each time you plant think what you might possibly bring

into bloom for the flower shows. Maybe before long the time will come round when we will have an exhibit each month, a continued display. Early blooming bulbs and spring shrubs and vines could be shown, then the later and gorgeous tulips, the narcissus in sorts, iris, ixias, anemones, ranunculus, roses, sweet peas and later the summer flowers, dahlias, etc., the chrysanthemums, and so on, a continuous monthly pageant of beauty and education along these lines. Surely after each one of our flower shows some one is inspired by seeing what can be done, to go and do as well or just a little better.

## The Giving of Flowers

One feature of the Floral Association's work seems to have been somewhat neglected. There was a time when the association had a committee which undertook to see that flowers were sent to the sick, and particularly to the unfortunate ones with whom the world had not dealt kindly. There are many who would appreciate the kindly act and word of comfort as much as the flowers themselves.

In order to carry on this branch of the work successfully, one or more active members of a committee is necessary who have a real heart-felt interest in seeking out the unfortunate or afflicted. The means available is not sufficient to order a bouquet at the florists, but it is quite possible to have a list of members with flower gardens, who would agree to pick fresh blooms, attach a card provided by the association, and send to the address furnished by the committee.

We cannot tell where the influence will spread. One member once upon a time sent a bouquet to a gentleman who was sick. He was deeply touched, and after recovery sent a substantial sum to be used in like service for others. That same gentleman has expressed a desire to contribute further if there was a committee to see that it was expended where needed.

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*Remember that the August regular meeting is an out-of-town meeting with Mrs. C. W. Darling, at Chula Vista, Thursday, the 21st. Take 1:25 or 1:40 car at Third and D Sts., and get off at Seavale.*

## The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor  
G. T. Keene, Manager

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

### The San Diego Floral Association

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#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Miss K. O. Sessions, Vice-President  
G. T. Keene, Secretary  
Miss A. M. Rainford, John Morley, Julius Wangenheim  
George W. Marston

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### AUGUST REGULAR MEETING

*Thursday afternoon, August 21, at the home of Mrs. C. W. Darling, Chula Vista. Take 1:25 or 1:40 car at Third and D Sts. and get off at Seavale.*

### July Regular Meeting

The Floral Association met at Lanier Hotel, July 17, for its regular meeting, the new president, Mr. L. A. Blochman, occupying the chair.

Plans for the year's work occupied a large share of attention. As a result of this discussion, the chair appointed a Show Committee, composed of Misses Rainford and Sessions and Messrs. Robinson, Lanier and Keene, whose duty it will be to lay plans for the Fall Flower Show.

A Program Committee was appointed, composed of Miss Clough, Mrs. Keene and Mrs. Waite, who are expected to see that some special features are provided at each monthly meeting during the next three months. It was decided that the regular meetings should be held at Lanier Hotel, on each third Thursday, unless some other time and place should be announced in advance.

It was decided to visit the Exposition

nurseries and grounds Saturday afternoon, August 2.

Mrs. Darling extended an invitation for the association to hold its August meeting at her home in Chula Vista, Thursday afternoon, August 21, and the invitation was promptly accepted. Members should take the 1:25 or 1:40 car at Third and D streets.

The members were unanimous in the expressed opinion that a talk on the planting and care of trees by our new director, John Morley, would be very acceptable at an early meeting.

Miss Sessions offered the suggestion that each member bring some flower with them to each regular meeting, making it a sort of current event, upon which they should talk or ask questions.

Mrs. Waite exhibited some of her seedling dahlias and gave an interesting talk on her experiences. Mr. Lanier talked on chrysanthemums, and others entered into the discussions.

The West India Gardens have gone to great expense to import date trees from the Persian Gulf countries. They selected very choice varieties which mature their fruit early in the fall. It is still in the nature of an experiment, the growing of dates in California, but one that should be given a very thorough trial. The trees cannot be delivered for six mos. but those who want to try them had better make their reservations for future delivery. Particulars will be found in a half-page adv. on the inside of front cover page.

Fortune Lanier has erected a glass house at the corner of Sixth and C streets, adjoining the Empress Theatre, and has moved his flower store to the new location.

## The Dahlia

The blooms on the dahlias that have been in flower a month or so are growing very small and the plants are getting weedy. It is good practice to cut them off right to the ground and if watered and cared for they will come again and give another crop in the fall. However, it must

(Continued on page 16)

# Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

This is vacation time and I have been vacating. I went to "Everywoman" and heard our wives applaud, which they naturally did, it being their funeral so to speak. Some of them even clapped when the embodiment of their sex found her way home at last to the arms of a vegetable in brown, personifying King Love the First.

Then I read "The Crime of the Canyon" and while admitting the first crime, considered the writing of the screed another one and went to Ocean Beach to find that there is a real nose paint that goes in a dry town. I met many youths in thin attire with noses painted a luminous white that glistened in a brown expanse, and on inquiring found that it was the insignia of the No Sunburn Order. In fairness it should be stated that both paints are procurable at the Beach, and the cars run every twenty minutes. This way of reason naturally brings me to the water question. We are now at the driest period of the year when the earth seems like one great mouth that cannot be moistened, and I share the general thirst. I hug the shade with drooping wings and gaping beak and cuss the eternal sunshine. Over a score of years has failed to teach me, or any one else of my acquaintance, that it is always dry in August, and that every sign points to a shady inactivity in the garden. Besides I am always in the moult and not in that sympathetic condition necessary for a true gardener.

The real gardener stores a wonderful stock of patience and good nature which was strikingly illustrated recently on my boulevard. Two master gardeners, one of San Diego and the other from a more northerly city, were taking in Point Loma when the August obsession got into a tire of their automobile and it burst. Subsequent investigation showed that that tire

had become so stuck to the rim that an hour of continuous effort was necessary to make repairs. Nevertheless, these two gardeners labored side by side in the dust with never a cuss word and were so polite that neither of them would don the one suit of overalls, so that their efforts were plainly getting dirt all over their clothes. I overlooked their operations for a time, and the most strenuous time, when all exertion seemed in vain, but they just smiled and talked trees and flowers and passed compliments till finally even the tire yielded like a reluctant wing feather and they just allowed themselves a grin of relief—that was all. I flew back to my shade in a chastened mood and found another soothing potion awaiting me on my pet bench, this was a copy of Dean Hole's "A Book About Roses". I read it at one sitting and forgot my troubles, and ever since I have been going back again over it all, and now I recommend it anybody who has August garden nostalgia. It matters not whether you grow roses or even care much about them or not, this book will prove delightful reading. One word of warning, if you do not grow roses and do not want to, be very careful, for these pages contain a power to inoculate the rose fever that few can resist. It was written years ago, before most of our today roses were evolved, but that does not matter a particle. The charm of the writer, who knew and loved his subject with the whole of a great big soul, is absolutely irresistible. Get in the shade and read "A Book About Roses".

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## AFTERNOON MEETING

*August meeting, afternoon of 21st, at Chula Vista. Take 1:25 or 1:40 car and get off at Seavale.*



## The Dahlia

*(Continued from page 14)*

be remembered that this growth has taken a great deal out of the soil and liberal treatment will be necessary for success. Mulching around them is clearly indicated as the ground is too hot and the days are long. Of course if you desire to save seed you must allow it time to mature. Partial cutting back of the dahlia does not seem successful, as it only stimulates weakly side growths that bear very inferior flowers.

Reports from the seed distributed as premiums with the California Garden should be coming in. If a dahlia show is held this year this magazine might be inclined to offer a prize for blooms from this seed. Don't let dahlias suffer for water, don't stir the ground near the plant, keep it mulched. If you want to prolong the blooming period keep off all seed pods and cut the stalk back to a blooming shoot. When your seedlings bloom, be sure to mark those you desire to keep and if planted close together clear away from such on each side so as to give room. Remember, however, that seedling dahlias improve in size as a general thing, the second season. They will not change color. With seedlings it is almost imperative to leave them undisturbed till the end of the season, in order to form sufficient tuber to carry through the winter. In fact, no tubers should be dug till fall. Unless they are desired to fill space, it is advisable to dig up and throw away all distinctly inferior seedlings directly they bloom, thus preventing the exhaustion of the soil and the possibility of their getting mixed with the good ones. There is no good reason why the dahlia should not be cultivated for special blooms, like the chrysanthemum. Disbudding and intensive culture would probably produce extraordinary flowers. If in the first place a cutting back process developed say eight shoots and these were grown and disbudded for one bloom each, great things might be accomplished, but then again they might not. Another idea might be tried, the shading with muslin overhead. Certainly here we do not give our dahlias enough overhead water. And this hot, dry season they would benefit by being sprinkled every night, if such a sprinkling were distinctly in addition to the regular irrigating, and not a substitution.

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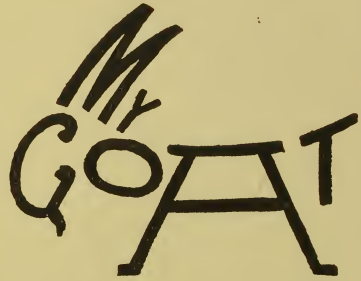
We have received through the mail this last week, a highly illuminated Diploma which was our first notification that our first prize cockerel at Los Angeles in January was also adjudged the best cockerel in the American Class. Kindly take notice of this added honor, and also that a properly appointed committee may inspect the document, and a circus tent that we have erected to teach our young birds the show stunts. The State Fair at Sacramento comes in September and we want to be there with some entries. In order to raise the money for car fare and fees we offer some first-class pens just as they were in our own yards at from \$25.00 up. Buy in order to advertise San Diego, never mind about Rosecroft. The State Fair is not a rival of our own 1915 Exposition, so there is no good reason for either fearing or knocking it.

We shall probably be at Sacramento with or without your help, but in the latter case you will get none of the reflected glory of those blue ribbons we shall bring home. By the way, the Eastern Poultry Press is quoting us as an authority on Barred Rocks,—another case of the Prophet and his own country.

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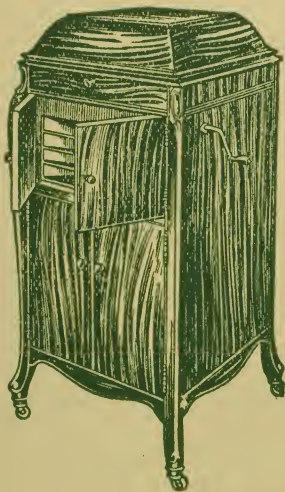
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